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OLDEST AGRICULTURAL PUBLICATION IN THE STATE.

The Maryland Farmer.

A Weekly for the Farmer, Fruit-Grower & Stock-Raiser.

Vol. XXVIII.

BALTIMORE, January 16, 1891.

No. 3.

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"I have now used Ayer's Pills in my family for seven or eight years. Whenever I have an attack of headache, to which I am very subject, I take a dose of Ayer's Pills and am always promptly relieved. I find them equally beneficial in colds; and, in my family, they are used for bilious complaints and other disturbances with such good effect that we rarely, if ever, have to call in a physician,"—H. Vonliemé, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

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"Ayer's Pills are the best I have ever used for headaches, and they act like a charm in relieving any disagreeable sensation in the stomach after eating,"—Mrs. M. J. Ferguson, Pullens, Va.

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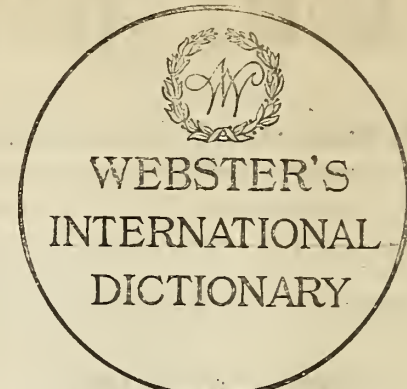
"After many years' experience with Ayer's Pills as a remedy for the large number of ailments caused by derangements of the liver, peculiar to malarial localities, simple justice prompts me to express to you my high appreciation of the merits of this medicine for the class of disorders I have named,"—S. L. Loughridge, Bryan, Texas.

"During the past 28 years I have used Ayer's Pills in my family for all derangements of the stomach, liver, and bowels. They never failed to benefit,"—Chauncey Herdsman, A. M., Business College, Woodside, Newark, N. J.

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Seedsmen and Florists,
ST. PAUL, MINN.

The Maryland Farmer.

Vol. XXVIII.

BALTIMORE, January 16, 1891.

No. 3.

THE CHESAPEAKE ORCHARDS.

L. H. BAILEY.

The region lying between Delaware and Chesapeake bays is peculiarly adapted to the peach. The climate is mild, the soil warm and well-drained, and the rainfall is usually abundant. Consequently the trees are vigorous, productive and long-lived. I have seen as large peach trees in Michigan as I have in Maryland, but there are fewer of them. It is only now and then a tree in some partially neglected yard or in some fence corner which attains the size of the more southern trees. Why it is that these half neglected trees should attain greater size than others is a disputed point, but on the whole I think it is due to nothing else than the fact that they are allowed to stand as long as they will live. The larger part of trees in an orchard fail comparatively early and render the orchard unprofitable, and the trees are all removed. If all were allowed to remain to the full limit of their life, no doubt some would attain to great size. And in fact, this occasionally happens. But because it is only in half neglected places that trees are allowed to stand to their full limit, people have reasoned that neglect is healthful and high culture harmful; but this, I am convinced, is a mistake.

The very large trees in Michigan are exceptions; in Maryland they appear to be the rule. Yet the difference in size at ten and twelve years of age do not appear to be so marked as in both younger and older trees. The young orchards are conspicuously larger in the Chesapeake country than they are on the famous Michigan shore. It seems to me that on the average a Maryland orchard at six years from planting is about as large as a Michigan orchard at eight years. When the trees begin to bear heavily, growth lessens, and then for a time the northern orchards appear to gain; or perhaps the broadening at the top due to bearing may have deceived me. But whatever the cause, the differences between orchards in

full bearing in the two regions seemed to be less than in their earlier years. Then, with age, they seem to diverge again, though not to so great an extent as at first. This is due, I suppose, to the greater average longevity of trees southwards, enabling them to grow for a greater number of years.

It seems to me, also, that the young trees in the Chesapeake country have a more upright habit than those in Michigan. We should expect this, from our knowledge of the influence of climate. Dr. Smith, the Department of Agriculture agent in charge of the yellows investigation tells me that the trees in the Chesapeake region average larger than in any country he has seen, even larger than in Georgia. He thinks

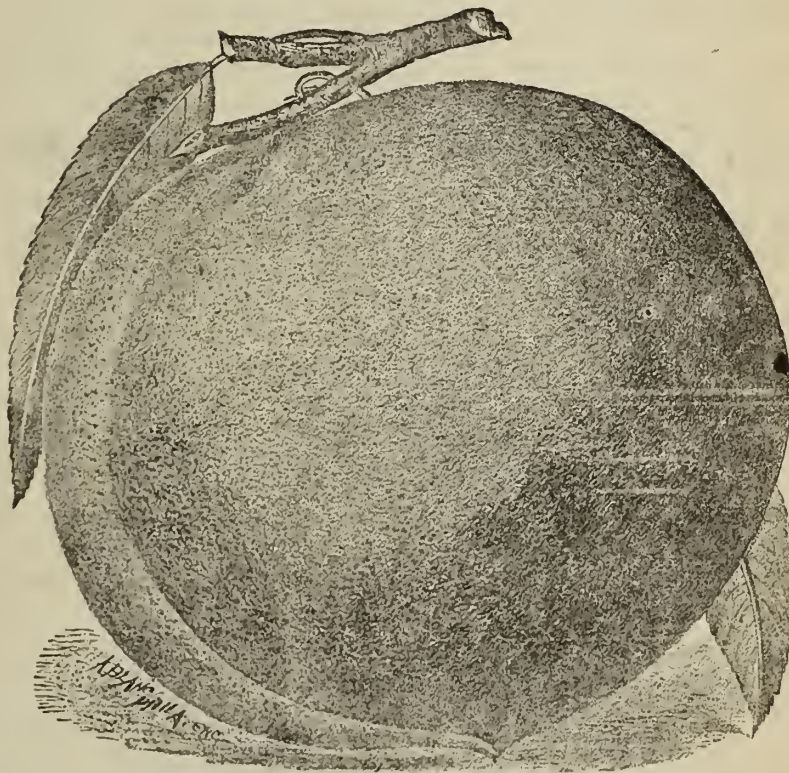
that the largeness is due in a great part to the comparatively moist climate, which enables the trees to grow more rapidly, and more continuously throughout the summer, than elsewhere. But whatever the particular causes may be, this record of the effects of climate may prove useful.

All this region of southern Jersey, Delaware, and eastern Maryland is a natural peach country, and it is probably the most important one in the world. The great markets—New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington,—are in easy reach, and the business is extensive enough

to attract evaporating establishments, canneries, and all the incidental advantages which aid in disposing of large crops. The orchards, especially in Maryland, are much larger than in Michigan and New York. This is due largely to the fact that the style of agriculture is rather more extensive than northwards; it lacks condensation. Orchards of 100 to 200 acres are not uncommon along the east shore of the Chesapeake. Peach culture has been profitable in these regions, but it has passed its palmy days.

The yellows is now over-running the country with terrible havoc. The upper half of Delaware is turning its atten-

(Continued on page 10)



THE MARYLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE AGRICULTURAL,
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 18th, 1891.

RASPBERRY CULTURE.—The most serious trouble among small fruits which has come under our observation this year, says a report from the New York Experiment Station, is the anthracnose or canerust of raspberries. It also attacks the blackberry. This attacks the growing canes, causing them to appear scabby and pitted. The blotches are brownish black, and at picking time they are usually conspicuous. The disease weakens the canes and the berries dry up as if suffering from drouth. It also attacks the leaves. In the treatment of this disease it is very important that the plants be kept in a thrifty condition. It is not necessary to practice laborious culture. Treat your plantations cheaply by cultivating them lightly once or twice a week until the berries begin to ripen, and again after the berries are off until well into August. Light and frequent cultivations in loose and well-tilled soil are much less expensive than half the amount of tillage upon neglected or poorly treated soil, and their effect upon the plants is greater. There have been no systematic experiments published upon the treatment of raspberry anthracnose with fungicides. We have already cleaned out and burned the old canes and the trimmings in our diseased plantations, and early in spring we shall begin the use of fungicides. We shall spray before the growth begins with sulphate of iron (about one pound to the gallon), and shall follow with Bordeaux mixture or carbonate of copper, or both, after the leaves appear. We have already (early in August) sprayed part of our bushes with Bordeaux mixture, but this is simply an experiment, and we do not look for very profitable results, as the spores have mostly disappeared at this season. But there is every reason to expect that the disease can be held in check by timely treatment. The value of any treatment will be greatly enhanced if the diseased canes are cut and burned as soon as done fruiting.

EDITORIAL.

TOBACCO GROWERS MEETINGS.

THE tobacco growers of Maryland held a meeting at Reitz's Hall, Baltimore, Thursday, in which subjects of vital importance to the tobacco interest were discussed. While great advances and improvements in the culture and methods of curing tobacco have been made in the South and West, Maryland has stood still or rather retrograded. It is high time that the planters of this section awoke to that fact, and it is to be hoped that the meeting at Reitz's Hall will serve a useful purpose in arousing our farmers to give more attention to the modern methods of tobacco cultivation.

The subjects discussed at the meeting took a considerable range and covered the points of improving the crop by the introduction of new seed, artificial curing and the proper selection of fertilizers. Curing by artificial heat was pronounced by several speakers, who had tried it, a great success, and undoubtedly this method of curing should be more used in the future. Major Alvord of the Agricultural College sent to the meeting a communication in which he announced that he has made arrangements for experimenting during the coming season with the culture and cure of leaf tobacco and expressed a desire to co-operate in any movement looking to the improvement of Maryland tobacco.

Dr. Clark of the Johns Hopkins University delivered an address on the geological features of Maryland in which he speaks as follows of the tobacco area:

"As this meeting has been called to consider the tobacco industry especially, I shall continue my remarks to the geological features of the tobacco area. At some time in the past the eastern border of the then existing continent was to be found slightly to the west of a line extending across Maryland from northeast to southwest. After a time elevation occurred, the coast line was removed further eastward, and deposits of a slightly different character was formed. During the different periods different types of marine animal life flourished, and as they died their shells were buried in the sand and mud of the sea bottom. The result is the marls so widely found in Southern Maryland. I have fossil shells found in the two formations that occur in the tobacco area—the eocene and the miocene formations. Since Southern Maryland first became land it has been very much cut into by the streams, and from the wash of the hills the sands, clays and marls of these different formations have been intermingled, and thus many grades of soils have been produced. The upper part of the miocene affords the wheat soils; the lower part of the miocene, the tobacco soils. The eocene, on the other hand, is the fruit and truck soils. If we had then, a good geological map of the State, it would be possible to tell where we should expect wheat to succeed, where tobacco and where fruit and truck." One of the good effects of this meeting has been the calling of other meetings of the same character. One has already been arranged to be held in Annapolis next month and one in Marlboro shortly afterward.

THE Senate has passed the free coinage bill and the friends of silver are hopeful that the bill will safely pass the House and the President and become a law. It is very doubtful whether the free coinage of silver will prove the unadulterated blessing which the silver men claim. In effect, the bill proposes to take from the silver speculation and mine owners all their product at an advance of about 24 per cent. on its price in the markets of the world. At first glance, it looks like an inflation measure, but it may turn out to be a measure of contraction. Gold would undoubtedly be completely demonetized and the circulating medium contracted to that extent. It is foolish to think that people are going to give a dollar for seventy-five cents. Gold would be hoarded to get the premium which it will bear, and very likely would be entirely driven out of the country. As a lively newspaper writer puts it, the country would be in a position of a man, owning a fine lot of thoroughbred horses; who should announce that he was willing to exchange thoroughbreds for yellow dogs at the same valuation. He would soon find himself long of yellow dogs and short of thoroughbreds. By the bill the government announces that it will make seventy-five cents in silver as good as a dollar in gold. How long will it be before the owners of silver will turn that commodity into gold and take the gold to a market where they can realize the twenty-five per cent profit?

WE have received a copy of a circular calling attention to a farmers' convention, to be held at Sandy Spring, Md., on Tuesday, January 27, at 10 o'clock A. M. The circular says, "In addition to reports from the clubs and committees there will be discussions on the following questions: What practical means can be taken to separate party politics from county affairs, that citizens may receive better results from the money expended? Will it pay the average farmer, financially, to participate in the average county fair? Is the use of barn-yard manure as a top dressing for wheat the most profitable way of applying it to the land? How can the fertility of the soil be maintained, where hay is the principle crop sold?" The signatures affixed are, B. D. Palmer, president; F. Snowden, and Chas. E. Bond, secretaries. This should be a well attended meeting, and no doubt will be, as farmers are now so awake to their interest. We hope to have full reports.

WE are glad to announce that the great harvester trust has gone to pieces. The window-glass and tobacco trusts also failed to get on a solid basis and are no more. The one affecting the farmers most is the harvester trust, and now instead of injury they will reap benefits. The different manufacturers now propose to each do all the business, consequently prices will be cut. These trusts are one of the great dangers of the day. They strangle all competition and put a heavy burden on the unfortunate consumers solely to line the pockets of a few grasping capitalists. There should be extreme legislation on this point. Consumers all over the country whether farmers or not should take a lively interest in the matter and see that their representatives in the various law making bodies are instructed to oppose to their utmost these blood sucking combinations;

WE publish a report on another page of an address made by Dr. O. T. Everhart, upon "Why Ensilage Pays," delivered by him at a grange meeting in York county, Pa. He seems a strong advocate of the silo. This is a subject we wish more of our readers would report to us of. We read a letter this week from a prominent gentleman of Westminster against them. Why does he not publish his experience? Probably he made some mistake which by discussion could be pointed out. A prominent stockman of Massachusetts claims that a great mistake made is in having the milk in the atmosphere where the ensilage is also and that the milk is thereby spoiled. We promise further papers upon this subject.

THE following have been elected officers of the Washington County Agricultural and Mechanical Association: President, John W. Stonebraker; vice-president, Geo. W. Smith recording secretary, Peter A. Witmer; corresponding secretary, Charles F. Manning; treasurer, C. C. Rachtell; directors, Philip H. Wingert, Dr. J. McP. Scott, George M. Stonebraker, Solomon B. Rohrer, John M. Brown, George B. Cearfoss, Benjamin P. Reuch, Dr. A. S. Mason, Lewis R. Schuebley and Victor H. Newcomer.

It would be idle, says the *Progressive Farmer*, of Raleigh, N. C., the official organ of President Polk, and also the State Alliance, to attempt to disguise the fact that many alliamcemen—good and true alliamcemen—in this country entertain serious doubts about both the desirability and practicability of some of the measures that have been offered for their acceptance. It is unwise to brush these men aside as enemies of our order and obstructionists to our reforms because they do not agree with us upon all points. Whether they are right or wrong is not the question. The question is, shall there be an open, free, full and fair discussion of all reasonable plans and opinions, and the ultimate selection of those to be carried through, which are best for all classes of our citizenship? Some of the anti-reform papers are expressing a fear the farmers will use their immense power to bring about hasty and ill-digested legislation. It is only fair to assume that these papers are honest in expressing these fears. But if it should turn out that they are dishonest, and are only predicting hasty action in the hope of bringing it about, that would not make it any the less necessary for us to be sure of every step before taking it. For one, we believe in the Alliance. We think its principles are just and righteous, and we want to see those principles so perfectly embodied in the institutions of the country that no member of a future generations shall have cause to regret the rise and reign of the Farmers' Alliance.

THE Chicago *Horseman* stands in the front rank of equine publications of this country. Its trotting horse department is especially full and valuable, and is edited with remarkable intelligence and ability.

"A B C of Agriculture," the title of the thirty-four page publication, just issued by W. S. Powell & Co., chemical fertilizer manufacturers, Baltimore, Md., is now finding its way to the farmers' homes. We have received a copy and find it reflects great credit upon its originator.

WHY ENSILAGE PAYS.

Dr. O. T. Everhart addressed a Grange meeting in York County, Pa., on November 27, on the above subject. After describing the silo, what ensilage is, and how it is the duty of the grange to educate her members, he set forth the importance of the silo by the following facts:

In order to obtain a barnyard manure in large quantities we must keep stock, and I will add, the more the better. I presume some of my farmer friends will interpose an objection to the last assertion, tell me that from an experience of many years they have found that too much stock impoverishes a farm. It is possible, that under the old system of farming, that may have been true. To accomplish this desirable end it will be necessary for the farmer to feed his stock ensilage. By so doing he will be enabled to double the number of his stock, without increasing the size of his farm. If you double the stock you double the quantity of manure, and if you double the quantity of manure you will assuredly increase the fertility of the soil, and if you increase the fertility of the soil you will most undoubtedly increase the quantity of all your crops. The time has arrived when the farmer must dispense with purchasing from \$50 to \$100 worth of fertilizer yearly, but must manufacture his own fertilizers in the form of farmyard manure. *That is why ensilage pays.*

For ensilage, green corn—stalks and all—are cut off after the milk has dried up, and just about the time the ear is glazing. It is taken at once to the barn, or silo, and cut into pieces from one-half to three-fourths inches long, with a fodder or ensilage cutter, and put immediately into an airtight pit or building, called a silo. Whilst filling the silo, a man is required to tread it, making it a solid, compact mass, so as to exclude all the air. After the silo is filled it is covered with cut straw about one foot thick. Some persons prefer putting heavy weights upon it, but experience has shown that it is an unnecessary expense. This can be preserved in good condition for twelve months or longer. Preserved thus in its natural state, it contains all the rich, succulent juices, and possesses a value for feeding both stock and milk cows, which far surpasses any other Winter food you can obtain. This succulent food is like the rich pasture of Summer, for in fact we are turning Winter into Summer, in the manner of feeding our stock. It produces an appetite, is very easily digested and by the process of assimilation is converted into a nutritive food that is perfectly adapted to the needs of animals.

Ensilage being more digestible than dried food, makes the cattle look more sleek, the eyes become brighter, and they fatten more rapidly; milk cows will yield more and better milk and the butter will have the rich, grassy flavor that is imparted to it in Summer.

It is on the same principle, and for the same reasons, that cattle fed on ensilage or preserved green food, which is the same thing, will always surpass in appearance and condition stock fed on dry food. This food not only possesses fattening qualities, but also contains health-giving properties, which is a very valuable consideration in food. *This is the second reason why ensilage pays.*

It is exactly adapted to the wants of the cattle and being

more easily digested than dry food, they will grow more rapidly, fatten better, be healthier and the cows will yield more milk and butter than is possible under the old system of dry feeding. *That is the third reason why ensilage pays.* If ensilage is properly secured and preserved, stock of all kinds will prefer it to other food. The cattle like it, and more than all, they know what is good for them. *That is the fourth reason why ensilage pays.*

Again, how often we experience severe droughts, which are always a serious obstacle to successful farming. The scorching rays of the sun soon wither the blades of grass, the earth becomes parched, and there is no pasture for the cattle. Under the old system of farming there is no redress, but every farmer must suffer a great loss in the condition of his stock and the diminished quantity of milk and butter that the cows are accustomed to yield. Just at this time the silo, with its rich succulent ensilage, comes to the rescue, and the farmer is prepared for the emergency, for ensilage furnishes not only a cheaper food than pasture, but is an almost indispensable necessity. That farmer is indeed a fortunate man who has an abundance of ensilage for his stock when the severe droughts of Summer prevail. *That is the fifth reason why ensilage pays.*

Now for a few testimonials as to the value of ensilage from actual experience. Chas. E. Ball, of Erie, Pa., says: "In one week from the time I began feeding ensilage instead of hay and dry fodder the afternoon's milk increased from sixty to ninety quarts, an increase of thirty quarts, with a proportionate increase of morning's milk."

Ex-Governor, Gregory Smith, of Vermont, says: "After years of careful experimenting I know that I can save from 40 to 60 per cent. of cost of keeping my stock by feeding ensilage." Col. Legrand Cannon, of Vermont, says: "My profits from ensilage in cost of feeding and increase of products over the old way is 51½ per cent. This was the result with a herd of 90 short horns." Wm. M. White, of Alleghany county, N. Y., says: "My four year old Devon bullock fed on ensilage and four quarts of barley meal a day, gained 100 pounds in 42 days. An old cow without front teeth, weighing 875 pounds, fed on 60 pounds of ensilage and four quarts of barley meal a day, gained 100 pounds in 40 days. A Durham heifer, 2½ years old, fed on 1½ bushels ensilage and four quarts of corn and cotton seed meal a day, gained 155 lbs. in 50 days." *That is the sixth reason why ensilage pays.* Whilst ten acres of hay will only feed ten head of stock, ten acres of ensilage will as easily feed twenty-five to thirty head of cattle, at the same time your milk and butter will be increased at least one-fourth, and your barnyard fertilizer will grow in a still greater proportion. *That is the seventh reason why ensilage pays.*

CHICAGO will have a big horse sale early in February. Some splendid roadsters, brood mares and other stock will be sold, quite a number of our people are talking of going out from this county. A sale of the California Electioneers will be held in New York the last of this month.—*Frederick Citizen.*

Alliance Page.

While this journal is not an official organ, of the Farmers' Alliance, it is in entire sympathy with that movement and heartily believes in a thorough and systematic organization among farmers to protect their interests. In this column, Alliance news will be presented, and matters akin to that movement discussed. Correspondence is cordially invited.

The Alliance officers, in this state and their addresses are.
 President, Hugh Mitchell, Port Tobacco.
 Secretary, T. Canfield Jenkins, Pomomkey.
 State Lecturer, . . R. D. Bradley, Preston.

Profoundly impressed that we, the Farmers Alliance, united by the strong and faithful ties of financial and home interests, should set forth our declaration of intentions, we therefore resolve:

1. To labor for the education of the agricultural classes in the science of economical government in a strictly non-partisan spirit.
2. To endorse the motto, "In things essential, unity; and in all things, charity."
3. To develop a better state, mentally, morally, socially, and financially.
4. To create a better understanding for sustaining civil officers in maintaining law and order.
5. To constantly strive to secure entire harmony and good will among all mankind, and brotherly love among ourselves.
6. To suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices all unhealthful rivalry and all selfish ambition.
7. The brightest jewels which it garners are the tears of widows and orphans, and its imperative commands are to visit the homes where lacerated hearts are bleeding; to assuage the sufferings of a brother or sister; bury the dead; care for the widows and educate the orphans; to exercise charity toward offenders; to construe words and deeds in their most favorable light, granting honesty of purpose and good intentions to others; and to protect the principles of the Alliance unto death. Its laws are reason and equity, its cardinal doctrines inspire purity of thought and life, its intentions are "peace on earth and good will toward men."—*From the Constitution of the Maryland State Alliance.*

SAYS a writer in the *Farm and Home*: What farmers want is a greater volume of money at a lower rate of interest. If we scale down the rate to three per cent, it is equivalent to reducing the indebtedness. Farmers believe there is no better security than productive real estate at a safe valuation. Now in the Argentine Republic loans appear to have been made at an extravagant valuation, and the mortgages were sold to English Shylocks. Under this system if the farmer failed, English capitalists would own his land, while under the Stafford scheme, if the farmer failed, our own government would become the owner. Under the Argentine plan that government paid interest to foreign bondholders, while under the plan proposed for the United States, our country would receive the interest. The scheme of the Argentine Republic was a direct road to the bottomless pit of national degradation and bankruptcy. The scheme of the farmers is to save the people from the slavery to bonds, to keep the farmers from becoming tenants of a landed aristocracy.

Alliance Notes.

THE Alliance men in Virginia and North Carolina who grow peanuts are still holding their crops for better prices, and the Peanut Trust will have to come to their terms.

THE National Farmers' Alliance has organized State Alliances in ten States and has in process of organization five other States. Sub-Alliances are also being formed in other States still.

THE Texas alliance is marching on grandly to future success. The members are full of bright hopes for the accomplishment of bright hopes during the coming year. All are working with life and vigor.

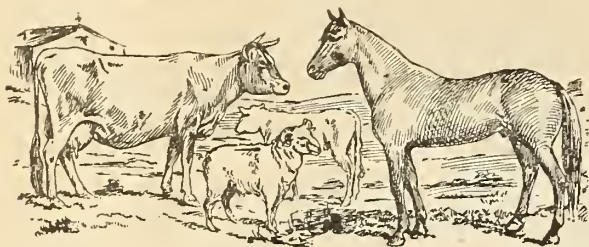
THE Alliance has not, as many people think, caused a falling off in the membership of the Grange. In all parts of the country increased membership and new Granges are reported. In Maine, out of 220 Granges, six in every ten own the buildings in which they meet, and this is good evidence of prosperity and permanency.

FROM Zellwood, Fla., the *Orlando Record* correspondent writes that the Alliance can do great good if it has the wisdom to keep out of the third party movement agitated at Ocala. The south, he adds, don't want any third party foolishness. The Alliance is strong here, but I do not know a man of them who wants any third party in his'n.

FOR the length of time the farmers' league has been in existence, less than two years one can easily estimate what its strength may attain, providing it be combined with the farmers' alliance. And consider that the population of the United States is 62½ millions, and it is estimated that one-half are engaged in agriculture and one-fourth in the mechanic arts, leaving but one-fourth for all other pursuits. Let the league with zeal set itself about the task of producing measures that will conduce to the welfare of the majority without being selfish in the matter. Of promoting some politician who has been slighted and proclaims his power to right matters if only he had the chance, beware.—*Dr Edward Russel.*

THE Alliance movement has crystalized into great strength, and at the last election it gave emphasis to the independent vote of the country, to the consternation of the politicians. Naturally these fellows now begin to look about them for means of capturing the Alliance and turning it to the advantage of this or that political party. The Alliances are no places for political trickery. They are no place for even a farmer who is hankering for office. We repeat here what we have sometimes before said that if the Alliance becomes the tail end of either of the political parties, its usefulness is at an end. The organization is for men of all political parties. It furnishes the opportunity for the farmers to meet together and discuss public questions. It never can become a political party within itself, and it never can use its political strength for the benefit of either of the political parties without killing itself. The Alliance and the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association have proved great educators. It has made men more intelligent voters, and led them to more carefully investigate men, measures and political parties before voting; and this is in the interests of the country at large.—*Western Rural.*

Stock Raisers' Column.



This column will be devoted to the interests of breeders and stock raisers, and especial attention will be paid to matters pertaining to the breeding and development of light harness and trotting horses. Correspondence is invited.

STRANGE to say, one of the greatest brood mares that ever lived bears the masculine name of Old Ned. She never produced a foal that could not beat 2:30, no matter what were the blood lines of the horse that covered her. She has in the 2:30 list Clemmie G., 2:15½; Mystery, 2:25½; Post Boy, 2:23; Forrest Wilkes, 2:24½; Alice Stoner, 2:24½, and three more of her get have well-authenticated trials better than 2:30, and her son Post Boy has sired the phenomenal young stallion Luby, that took a four-year-old record the past year of 2:20. The only one of her daughters that has had any opportunity in the stud is Steinette, the dam of Bourbon Russell, 2:30, and Baronstein, that last season showed his ability to trot in 2:25. Steinette is probably the most valued mare on Colonel R. G. Stoner's farm, and all who see her pronounce her as great an individual as any farm can boast of. Steinway, the sire of Steinette, was the first three-year-old stallion to trot in 2:25½, which stood as the best record for stallions of that age from 1879 to 1884. He is the sire of six in the 2:30 list, including the phenomenal Cricket, that went down the Grand Circuit and took a pacing record of 2:10. Steinette was never trained, but has been used exclusively in the stud. Her oldest colt, Bourbon Russell, above referred to, has a record of 2:30; her second, Ned Wilkes, is reported very fast, but has been used exclusively in the stud in Wyoming, where his youngsters are said to be very fast and the making of trotters. The next is Baronstein, by Baron Wilkes, and he can trot right close to 2:20; he is probably the finest and fastest of her produce, and competent horsemen consider him, age considered, the equal of his great sire, the fastest entire son, Guy Wilkes excepted, of the mighty George Wilkes.

A gentleman who has just returned from California says of Palo Alto, Senator Stanford's great breeding farm:

"The third day, December 13, I went to Palo Alto, the stock ranch of Senator Leland Stanford. This day and the next I was under the guidance of Dr. Bailey I. Smith, brother of W. B. Smith, of Hartford. What I saw at Palo Alto paid me well for the whole trip. Six-month colts as big as two-year-olds large and fully as well developed as the best four-

year-old at the North. No wonder that they make trotters. They have the best climate in the world to grow in. As soon as they are weaned they are fed all they can eat of the most nutritious food; ground oats and barley steamed, and fed regularly three times a day. They are put into training at six to seven months, in what they call the kindergarten, a covered ring about one-eighth mile around. Before they are put in the ring they are booted with shin and quarter-boots, as much as if they were trotting a race. They are not allowed to run, but must trot all the time. After going a few times one way they are turned and go the other. They soon learn the words of command, and the crack of the whip does not scare them. After they have been worked every day this way for about one month they are bridled, broke and bitted. Then a breaking harness is put on and they are made to trot in another ring with nothing hitched to them. They are groomed twice a day and their feet looked to by a blacksmith as much as an old trotter. They are not shod, but their feet are not allowed to grow out long, but are kept in good shape. About two months of this work finishes the first year of their education. Then when the grass is ready they are turned out till next winter. Their early training is never forgotten. They are gentle and kind. You can go right up to them in the big yard, pick up their feet and handle them like old horses. The trainers are not allowed to whip them; all must be done by kindness."

It is thought by many that there was as much real speed capacity in some of the trotters of fifteen years ago as there is in the best of those of the present day, says an *Eastern Exchange*. It is recorded that Carl S. Burr drove the stallion Bruno, by Rysdyk's Hambletonian, a quarter in thirty seconds, one watch making 29¾. We have seen it stated also that the gray mare Peerless, owned ten or twelve years ago by Robert Bonner, was also driven a quarter in about 30 seconds.

It is well known that the famous pacer, Pocahontas, could go a quarter in 30 seconds, and we find it stated in the first volume of Thompsons Maine Bred Horses that Dr. J. H. Bailey once drove Shepherd Knapp Jr., the last quarter of a mile in thirty seconds, and this in a race, too.

It is a fact that there were trotters twenty years ago that could trot quarters as quick as the best of them can at the present day, with at least twenty times as many to pick from. Then it would seem that the great improvement which has been made in the trotting horse of America since then has not been in speed capacity, but in the ability to keep up a fast rate of speed for a full mile.

It is said that if a mile is ever trotted in two minutes it will be by a horse that can trot a quarter in 27 seconds. Judging from the past, however, such a horse never will appear, for there must be a limit to the trotting speed of a horse and everything seems to indicate that a quarter in 30 seconds is about that limit. We are inclined to think, therefore, that if the two minute horse ever comes he will be one with stamina enough to trot four successive quarters in 30 seconds each, or perhaps the first in 29½, the second in 30½, the third in 29¾ and the fourth in 30½.

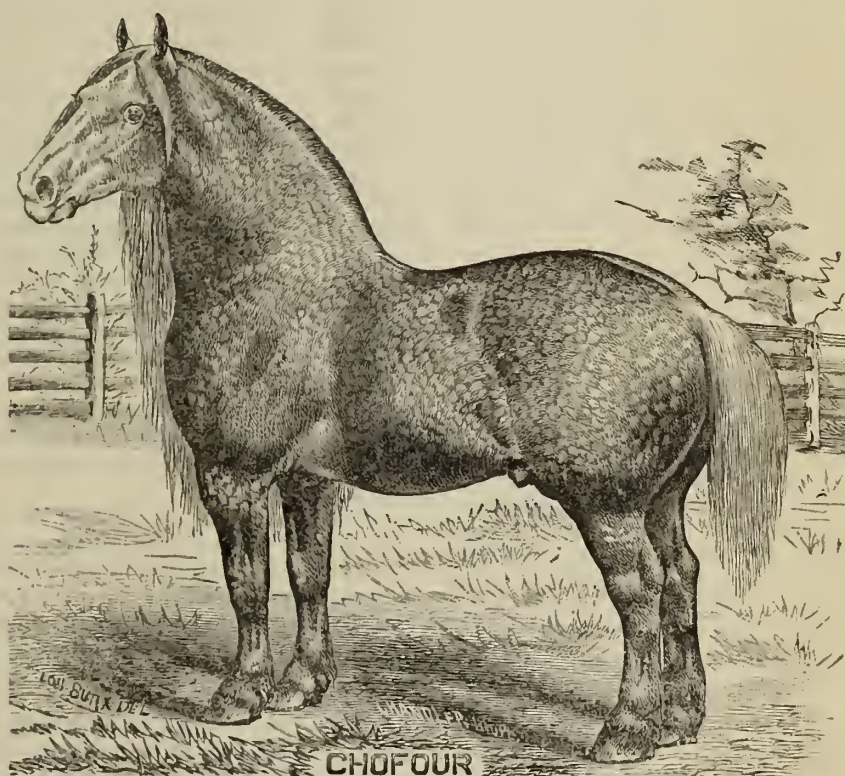
PERCHERON HORSES.

Among the draft breeds of the country, the Percheron stands easily first. To vigorous strength, and a somewhat elegant conformation it joins docility, mildness patience and a hardy elastic temperament. It is quick of movement and fast with heavy loads. It matures early and is capable of hard work at a time when other breeds are roaming the fields unbroken. It is entirely free from the hereditary bone defects of the back. Spavins and curb are unknown in the Percheron. The breed has been thoroughly tested and fully established. The Percheron breeds on and impresses its valuable characteristic on its descendants of one quarter or one eighth blood. The height of the Percheron horse is generally 14½ to 16. He is of a sanguine temperament. His color is almost always gray. They have been divided into three classes; first, the

race has been considerably modified. The foot has become flatter, the head over charged, the tendon still weaker, the back longer, the shoulder has lost its direction and the croup has become shorter.

One of the distinctive qualities of the Percheron horse, and one which has won for him universal esteem, is fast trotting while drawing a heavy load. English blood infused with judgement, allies well with the Percheron race. Too often crossings have been affected in violation of common sense, without any attention to the distance which separates the blood horse from the common, low-bred Percheron mare; she having no affinity with him.

Those who would succeed must possess the talent of waiting, for unfortunately the rearing of the resulting progeny is a burden. Their slow development renders them but little



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light Percheron, in which the sanguine temperament predominates; second, the draft Percheron in which the lymphatic temperament is most fully developed; third, the type intermediary between these two partaking of the one by its lightness, and of the other by its muscular force. The latter is the most abundant. It has style although the head is rather long and large, nostrils well open and well dilated, eye large and expressive, forehead broad, ear fine, neck rather short but well filled out, withers high, shoulder pretty long and sloping, breast rather flat, but high and deep, a well rounded body, back rather long, the croup horizontal and muscular, tail attached high, short and strong joints, and the tendon generally weak, a foot always excellent, a gray coat, fine skin, silky abundant mane; such are the more general characteristics of the old Percheron race. By foreign crossing the present

fit for the labors to which the farmer is in the habit of consigning his colts. Percherons make good roadsters as well as good draft horses.

THE leading breeders of North Carolina are Captain B. P. Williamson and Major W. P. Batchelor, of Raleigh. The latter is the owner of the great horse Pamlico, and Captain Williamson a few years since established a stock farm on quite an extensive scale in the outskirts of Raleigh.

THE race between Nutwood and Alcantara for leading place in the list of sires of 1890 begins to look like a dead heat. In *The Horseman's* records we have Florence L. credited to California Nutwood, son of Nutwood, but it is claimed that she is by Nutwood. If this is a fact Nutwood and Alcantara each have added twenty-one to their lists in 1890. The kings of Highland and Highlawn are indeed proving mighty sons of mighty sires.

THE CHESAPEAKE ORCHARDS.

(Continued from page 3)

tion elsewhere, and peach culture is going southwards, ever pursued by the scourge. There are large tracts of open fields north of Dover which were once busy orchards. But now the orchards are rare, even so far south as Dover, in which the disease is not abundant and destructive. Orchard after orchard is hopelessly ruined, and the rows of stumps and windrows of tree tops mark the downfall of a beautiful and lucrative industry. In Kent county, Maryland, lying across the Chesapeake from Baltimore, the yellows now has the mastery, and in Cecil county, to the northward, it has well-nigh ruined the peach business.

Everywhere this yellows has the same appearance as it does in New York and Michigan; it is the same disease. But in Michigan it has been quarantined, while southward it has been neglected. I visited scores of orchards in which half or more of the trees were badly diseased, and yet the owner made no attempt to remove them. Such a condition of affairs is unintelligible to a northern peach grower. Of course there are some who cut them out diligently, but it is of little avail amid the general neglect. Many growers intend to cut out the diseased trees, but they never get to it. In spring, they will be cut out in fall; in fall, they will be removed in winter; but other business always interferes. "How soon would you cut them out—the next fall?" asked one. "The next hour," I replied.

But it is not strange that the disease should be misunderstood; and consequently often neglected. It does not appear suddenly, with striking symptoms which would attract a casual observer, nor does it always kill the tree within a definite time it is obscure and mysterious, and therefore provokes almost endless debate. It is natural that at first local conditions of soil or climate or treatment should be regarded as the cause of it, but it would seem that the facts now evoked by the discussions at societies everywhere, and by the observations of trained students, are sufficient to show that yellows is not a local trouble or condition, but a wide-spread disease of immense importance. We must look over the fence and enlarge our views. And there is no better proof that it is a specific disease than the fact that its symptoms are essentially the same everywhere, in all soils and all conditions. If it were a local matter it would not only occur alone in restricted areas, but the symptoms would vary with the locality. But definite records are now indisputable that the disease occurs on all soils, under all methods of treatment, and they indicate that it may occur in any region. It is probably only a matter of time until it will appear west of the Rocky mountains. It was once supposed that the disease could not occur in the virgin soils of the Michigan shore, but the experience of the last twenty years have sufficiently overthrown that dogma. Peach growers have been separated upon the yellows question, every man endeavoring to prove himself to be right. But it is now that we work together for the truth, independently of any man's assumptions. Certainly the condition of the Chesapeake orchards is bad enough to call loudly for help.

Into this distress has come one of the most patient and careful investigators who has ever studied diseases of plants. Erwin F. Smith, the agent of the Department of Agriculture, has been working here and in Georgia, Michigan and Kansas for three or four years in a quiet, but I am convinced, in a most efficient way. The amount of his work is enormous, and I think that he has settled many of the disputed points. To be sure, he has not discovered the cause of the disease, but he is constantly eliminating probable causes. But the ultimate cause is really less important in a practical way than most people imagine. It is by no means probable that we

shall be able to cure the yellows when the cause is known; but we shall, perhaps, know better how to control it. Dr. Smith's field experiments with fertilizers, number 100, and cover 40 acres of orchard in Delaware and Maryland; and 40 acres more are reserved as checks. These experiments cover the whole range of special and general fertilizers, in all combinations. Potassic, phosphoric, nitrogenous, and all manner of compound fertilizers have been employed. The experiments are now two seasons old, and they have been made upon sick orchards to cure them and upon well orchards to protect them. All the special compounds and nostrums which have ever been recommended are used. Many of these fertilizers have produced most marked effects upon the trees. The nitrogenous compounds often add almost wonderful vigor and color.

But there is not one material which has had the least effect upon the yellows, either in curing it or in keeping it away. And these tests have been made upon a scale and with an exactness never before approached. I visited the larger part of these test orchards and examined them critically, and I was totally unable to detect any modification of the disease which could be attributed to fertilizing. Continuous cropping of poor soils, with no fertilizers, has failed to augment the disease. I am satisfied that the soil exhaustion and special fertilizer theories are irrevocably overthrown.

This is but a sample of the work under way. A series of tests upon cutting off the first diseased twig as soon as it appears, have shown that the tree is even then constitutionally diseased, for such trees invariably die. In only one or two cases has it been found that the disease does not again appear until the second year. It seems as if the whole tree is diseased before any symptoms are seen. Experiments upon the use of various stocks are in progress. I saw one peach orchard grown upon plum stocks in order to ascertain if the plum would afford immunity from the disease. This is a young orchard and results cannot be announced yet. Various budding and inoculation experiments are in progress, from Georgia to Michigan.

One of our best horticultural writers has said that tobacco applied to the soil will cure the yellows. The investigation of this point has resulted in a most important discovery, nothing less than a new insect. This is an aphid (*Aphis Persice niger*, E. F. Smith, "black peach aphid") or louse which works both upon the foliage and root of the peach tree. Upon the roots it is particularly noxious. The great colonies of insects so draw the tree that it may make scarcely any growth for many years. The tree looks yellow and sickly, and it is not strange that such a one should be mistaken for a yellows tree. It is highly probable that the isolated, stunted peach trees which we sometimes see in orchards are attacked by this root louse. It is abundant in the sandy lands in the Chesapeake county, and Dr. Smith has found it in Michigan. A liberal dose of tobacco will kill this insect. I saw some wonderful recoveries of aphid-infested trees from the use of tobacco.

Laboratory cultures from diseased trees have given various results. Sometimes no germs are present, and sometimes many are found. The disease is far more obscure than pear blight, and results will come slowly. Those who have no intimate knowledge of the difficulties of such work can form no idea of the labor and patience involved.

Michigan, New York and Virginia have definite yellows laws, and Delaware has one which applies to the lower half of the State. In many parts of the middle states the orchards are so large and the homesteads so isolated that laws cannot be promptly enforced. But the value of eradication, enforced by law, is illustrated in Michigan, and the absence of it is painfully apparent in this beautiful Chesapeake country.—*American Garden.*



WOMAN'S CORNER.

↳ MRS. MARY L. GADDESS, EDITRESS.

This department of THE FARMER will be made of special worth to the ladies of the farmer's household. Fashions in dress, latest ideas of ornamentation, flowers, etiquette, and all subjects in which they may be interested will be fully discussed and in a chatty manner. MRS. GADDESS, the editress, a well-known writer of this city, cordially invites correspondence on matters of interest in this column and will answer any questions with pleasure.

The holidays are over, and we can find some spare time to arrange for spring work, although the fashion books assert that there will be nothing new until February. As of late ladies dresses are only remarkable for simplicity, no one need wait. Do not overtrim cashmeres or woolen goods; well-shaped, high sleeves and collar, forms sufficient decorations, and artistic effect without trimming is what you desire to obtain. A band of fur finishes off the edge of most elegant costumes.

Bright red and yellow is much used in hat trimmings. Bonnets are flat and low with many times a few roses or pansies arranged to come from the back and rest over the forehead; strings tied under chin for dressy occasions, and that is when the bonnet is required.

Long wraps are worn more this season than for years, and are indeed the most sensible garment for severe weather, protecting the limbs as well as shoulders and breast, and nothing is so elegant. Rough cloths are fancied, and feathers or furs, of course the trimming.

It has not been necessary to say anything about skating costumes for some years, but now these jaunty, short woolen gowns are the fashion, for when the ice is firm there are always plenty who enjoy the invigorating exercise. Above all, have the dress short, and the plainer made the better. Individual taste may be consulted in color. Red, trimmed with black fur, looks warm and attractive. Any closely fitting heavy goods will answer. Remember to have at hand an extra wrap, and in stopping to rest even a moment, put it on and thus avoid all danger of chilling off suddenly.

Do not forget, if you desire to give a dinner party or even a small family affair, it is no longer the thing to remove the cloth. Your linen must be as fine as you can possibly afford. The best housekeepers object to a particle of starch in damask. It disturbs the fine soft hairy effect and does not hang so well. The low decorations are so much used now, that the tall centre pieces laden with fruit and flowers have lost favor. A scarf of silk, satin, velvet or lace down the centre, dishes of glass and silver to hold the ferns or flowers used, and when these are not obtainable, a very pretty effect can be reached by moss and holly with its bright berries. The china and glass with such accessions, though they may be plain and even cheap, looks elegant, and

these little things add so much toward making life beautiful that they should receive our attention. To some, all these matters come naturally, they seem born housekeepers. Others only acquire the taste after great effort, and some never can.

You must remember to turn your plants occasionally or they will all draw to the light and the leaves show out of doors, and in the room only the under part, where you want them to look best. Some of the journals are calling attention to the "canna" as a winter decorative plant. I have used it, and "elephants' ears" also, for some seasons past, and it has proved very satisfactory in the sitting room, standing considerable more variation in temperature than you would imagine. The young growth constantly pushes up as old leaves die away, and they are indeed a charming decorative plant. Petunias and nasturtiums should now be blooming, and the common "morning glory" will give flowers all winter. I cannot persuade them to bloom, but some of my readers may be more fortunate.

Of all the useful and ornamental household belongings, nothing so liberally repays you for the trouble of making them as a screen. They are a necessity for those who have ever used them, and should be in every room. Covered with ordinary scrap pictures that are attainable, and have the recommendation of cheapness. Any wooden frame covered will do. The Japanese designs are elegant and not very expensive. Silks, brocades, satin, velvet, serge, crash, linen and sail cloths can all be utilized for screens. Embroidered, painted, transferred work, or in fact any description of outline stitch, may be used for ornamenting. They are ever ready to stand between your chair and the fire, keep draughts from the invalid's couch, beautify some homely spot and transfer a plain apartment into a dainty boudoir. If no frame is to be obtained, a common clothes horse can be pressed into service to make one.

Particular modes and ceremonies vary in different cities and even in various circles in the same town, but the principles of true politeness are the same in all places. Any and every one can be grounded in these. 'Tis always impolite to hurt the feelings or temper of those with whom we are thrown. "Agree to differ" is a pleasant maxim to observe.

MRS. M. L. GADDESS.

Markets.

BALTIMORE, JAN. 15, 1891.

The markets generally have been rather quiet during the week. Southern wheat has been steady and is about unchanged, while corn is very scarce and higher, especially for yellow. Oats are plentiful but have advanced. Rye is steady. Clover seed is much higher and other seeds dull and unchanged. Hay is firmer. Both butter and eggs are slightly easier. Poultry and dressed hogs are steady and unchanged.

We quote:

Spot wheat.....	\$ 96½a96½
Southern Fultz	95 a1 03.
Longberry.....	100a1 03.
Stock.....	610,435.
Yellow corn.....	59½a62.
White do.....	58 a61.
Mixed Spot.....	58½a58½
Stock.....	177,640
Oats, whole range.....	48 a52½
Stock.....	93,490
Rye, whole range.....	74 a82
Stock.....	22,375
Family Flour, per barrel....	4 50a5 65
Clover Seed.....	6½a 8½
Timothy Seed.....	110 a1 45
Hay, per ton.....	10 50a11 50
Eggs, per dozen choice.....	26a27..
Butter, fancy roll.....	18..
Butter, prime to choice.....	14a15.
Chickens, dressed.....	10a12..
Turkeys, dressed good to choice ..	12a14..
Ducks, dressed.....	12a13.
Geese, dressed.....	7a11..
Dressed Hogs.....	3¾a4¾..

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Choice Sacred Solos. Low Voices	40 "
Classic, Baritone and Bass.	33 "
Classic Tenor Songs.	36 "
Good Old Songs We Used to Sing.	115 "

CHOICE PIANO COLLECTIONS.

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Piano Classics. Vol. 2.	31 "
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Popular Dance Collection.	66 "
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Sensible Hints.

From the *Poultry Monthly*, of Albany, N. Y., an elegant journal of its class, we clip the following:

If you think of buying stock get the best.

Rest satisfied with doing well, and leave others to talk as they will.

Cover the floors with fine sand and have a box in a corner of the hen-house, where the sun can pour on it, well filled with dry road dust.

It pays to feed meat, fresh from the butcher's, even at twenty cents a pound in winter, if eggs are high. Use a pound of lean meat, chopped fine, for twenty hens, daily.

The excessive use of wood ashes in dust should be avoided. They destroy the oil of the skin and feathers and make them harsh and dull, as well as ruin the color of the fowls' legs.

A good culler is always a man of experience. The inexperienced breeder often does not know the difference between a good and a poor bird. He can easily learn by studying the standard, and if he is not willing to do this, should retire from business.

It may be diarrhoea or, what is more common, constipation, that makes the chickens droop. For diarrhoea a little black pepper mixed in meal, scalded milk, or a couple of pepper pills, will generally prove effectual. For constipation an abundance of green food will give relief.

The safest and surest method of preventing the entrance of rats into the poultry houses is to place half-inch wire netting under the floors. If the floor is of earth the netting can be placed below the level of the ground and the earth thrown on it, by which method it can be removed whenever fresh earth is desired.

It is now time for those who expect to raise a crop of chickens next season to commence preparations to that end. It will be a long time before warm weather is here, yet those who want fine birds for the early fall shows, and are willing to bestow a little care upon them, do not consider February too early to bring out the young birds, especially of the Asiatic varieties.

If you want eggs for hatching send your order along before you want them. Remember that a breeder cannot send

them by telegraph, and if you wait until your hen is ready to set you may find a number of orders ahead of you.

The fancier is just as anxious to ship as you are to receive. If the old hen is "broody" she is in no particular hurry and you can keep her sitting on chalk eggs for a week, or longer, until your eggs arrive.

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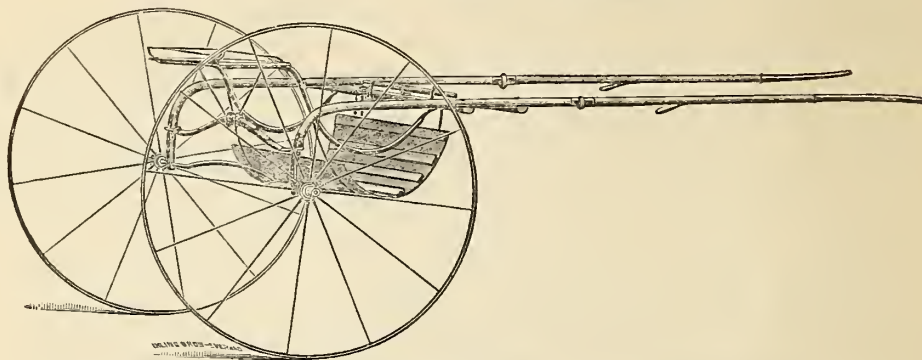
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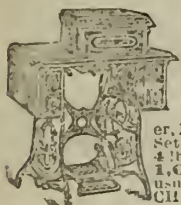
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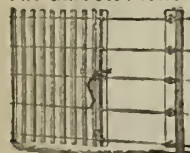
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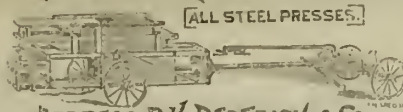
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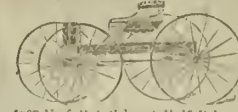
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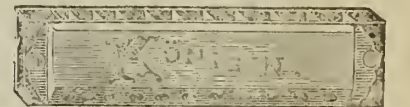
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should have the wolf at the door; and she's gone and done it for I heard her."

Amateur farmers do not know a great deal perhaps, but when they do know they are sure. Old farmer—"What do you feed your pigs?" Amateur farmer—"Corn." Old farmer—"In the ear?" Amateur farmer (in disgust)—"No, in the mouth."

Sweet girl: "Pa, the house next door was robbed last night." Pa: "Mercy! Next door?" Sweet girl: "Yes, and the burglars have been in two or three houses on this block this week." Pa; "I know it. I know it. Its terrible. But what can we do?" Sweet girl: "I was thinking it might be a good plan for Mr. Rich-fellow and me to sit up a few nights and watch for them."—*Chicago Tribune.*

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